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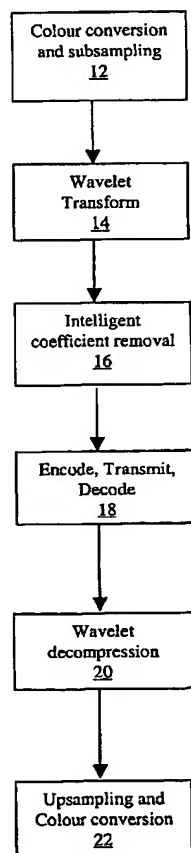
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(54) Title: DATA COMPRESSION FOR COLOUR IMAGES USING WAVELET TRANSFORM



(57) Abstract: The invention describes a wavelet compression method for colour converted image planes (Y, Cb and Cr), wherein a relatively low (e.g. zero) degree of compression is performed in areas of an original colour image having relatively higher importance, and a relatively higher degree of compression in those areas indicated to be of lower importance. It performs a hierarchical encoding of a reduced wavelet image by discarding wavelet coefficients which satisfy the two criteria of firstly corresponding to image areas of relatively lower importance and secondly being below a certain wavelet coefficient threshold. The wavelet coefficient threshold is determined from a calculation of cumulative histogram to remove a percentage of the image and can be specified as an input parameter by a user.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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